

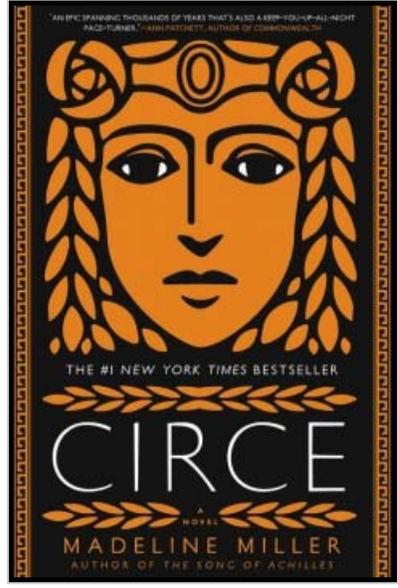


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Circe

by Madeline Miller

Price: \$27.00(Hardcover)

Published: April 10, 2018

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Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: The daring, dazzling and highly anticipated follow-up to the New York Times bestseller *The Song of Achilles*

One of the Most Anticipated Books of 2018
"An epic spanning thousands of years that's also a keep-you-up-all-night page turner." - Ann Patchett In the house of Helios, god of the sun and mightiest of the Titans, a daughter is born. But Circe is a strange child--not powerful, like her father, nor viciously alluring like her mother. Turning to the world of mortals for companionship, she discovers that she does possess power--the power of witchcraft, which can transform rivals into monsters and menace the gods themselves. Threatened, Zeus banishes her to a deserted island, where she hones her occult craft, tames wild beasts and crosses paths with many of the most famous figures in all of mythology, including the Minotaur, Daedalus and his doomed son Icarus, the murderous Medea, and, of course, wily Odysseus. But there is danger, too, for a woman who stands alone, and Circe unwittingly draws the wrath of both men and gods, ultimately finding herself pitted against one of the most terrifying and vengeful of the Olympians. To protect what she loves most, Circe must summon all her strength and choose, once and for all, whether she belongs with the gods she is born from, or the mortals she has come to love. With unforgettably vivid characters, mesmerizing language and page-turning suspense, *Circe* is a triumph of storytelling, an intoxicating epic of family rivalry, palace intrigue, love and loss, as well as a celebration of indomitable female strength in a man's world.

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About The Author

Madeline Miller
Madeline Miller was born in Boston and attended Brown University where she earned her BA and MA in Classics. She lives in Narbeth, PA with her husband and two children. *The Song of Achilles* was awarded the Orange Prize for Fiction and has been translated into twenty-five languages.

Release Info

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What We Say

OK, so clearly "The Song Of Achilles" was no fluke. Classicist Madeline Miller made a remarkable fiction debut with a story plucked from "The Iliad" by bringing to life the passion and pain of the hero Achilles. Published as a paperback release, it was critically acclaimed and became an international bestseller. Six years later, Miller returns with a story drawn from "The Odyssey." This time she inhabits the character of Circe. As Homer told it, Circe was a near immortal banished to an island, just one of many dangers faced down by the wily Odysseus. Circe turned his men into swine but Odysseus was forewarned by the god Hermes. The wayward warrior pressures the hag into restoring his men and then w(h)iles away a year on her island before moving on. Some other ancient tales say Circe even bore the warrior a son (or sons) who would later accidentally kill him. While it's true the adventures of Odysseus were peripatetic in the extreme, why exactly did he tally for a year on her island? And how did Circe end up banished to this spit of land in the first place? As with "The Song Of Achilles," Miller brings Circe fully to life, from an anxious childhood to the endless heartbreak, disappointment and frustrated ambition that is surely the lot of demigods who live for thousands of years. "Circe" is gripping from start to finish. Despite portraying characters who have been indelibly brought to life so many times before, Miller's take on everyone from Helios to Hermes to Daedalus and Circe herself threatens to overwhelm our previous imaginings. Circe's resistance to being pigeonholed or dismissed by her father, her embrace of "feminine" pursuits looked down on by others (like weaving and witchcraft) and so much more make this a rich tale on many levels. Above all, it's a thoroughly satisfying story. Only the gods know what epic or ancient myth Miller might set her considerable skills to next. Whatever it is, the story will surely be worth the wait. -- Michael Giltz

What Others Say

NPR's *Weekend Edition* "Books To Look Forward To In 2018"

Esquire's "The 27 Most Anticipated Books of 2018"

Boston Globe's "25 books we can't wait to read in 2018"

The Millions "The Most Anticipated: The Great 2018 Book Preview"

Cosmopolitan's "33 Books to Get Excited About in 2018" -

"Miller follows her impressive debut (*The Song of Achilles*) with a spirited novel about Circe's evolution from insignificant nymph to formidable witch best known for turning Odysseus's sailors into swine.... Weaving together Homer's tale with other sources, Miller crafts a classic story of female empowerment. She paints an uncompromising portrait of a superheroine who learns to wield divine power while coming to understand what it means to be mortal."â*Publishers Weekly, Starred Review* -

"In her stirring follow-up to the Orange Prize-winning *The Song of Achilles* (2011), Miller beautifully voices the experiences of the legendary sorceress Circe...This immersive blend of literary fiction and mythological fantasy demonstrates that the Greek myths are still very relevant today."â*Booklist* -

"A retelling of ancient Greek lore gives exhilarating voice to a witch... [Circe is] a sly, petulant, and finally commanding voice that narrates the entirety of Miller's dazzling second novel....Readers will relish following the puzzle of this unpromising daughter of the sun god Helios and his wife, Perse, who had negligible use for their child....Expect Miller's readership to mushroom like one of Circe's spells. Miller makes Homer pertinent to women facing 21st-century monsters."â*Kirkus, Starred Review* -

"An epic spanning thousands of years that's also a keep-you-up-all-night page turner."â*Ann Patchett, author of Commonwealth* -

"With lyric beauty of language and melancholy evocative of Keats' "Ode on a Grecian Urn", CIRCE asks all the big questions of existence while framing them in the life story of the famous goddess who had the magic of transformations. A veritable Who's Who of the gods of Olympus and the heroes of ancient Greece, Circe knows them all and we see them through her perceptive eyes. This is as close as you will ever come to entering the world of mythology as a participant. Stunning, touching, and unique."â*Margaret George, author of The Confessions of Young Nero* -

"Circe bears its own transformative magic, a power enabled by Miller's keen eye for beauty, adventure, and reinvention. Through the charms of a misfit heroine, the world of gods becomes stunningly alive, and the world of our own humanity--its questions, loves, and bonds--is illuminated. This book is an immense gift to anyone who reads to find their own bravery and quest."â*Affinity Konar, author of Mischling* -

"Madeline Miller, master storyteller, conjures Circe glowing and alive - and makes the Gods, nymphs and heroes of ancient Greece walk forth in all their armored splendor. Richly detailed and written with such breathtaking command of story, you will be held enchanted. A breathtaking novel."â*Helen Simonson, author of The Summer Before the War and Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* -

"*Circe* is the utterly captivating, exquisitely written, story of an ordinary, and extraordinary, woman's life"â*Eimear McBride, author of A Girl is a Half-Formed Thing* -

"Written with power and grace, this enchanting, startling, gripping story casts a spell as strong and magical as any created by the sorceress Circe."â*Mary Doria Russell, author of Epitaph* -

"Magic, adventure, and mythology - this one's got it all."â*Bustle* -

"With sumptuous writing and descriptive imagery you'll see these gods and men and every being in between as you've never imagined them before."
â*Esquire* -

"With unforgettably vivid characters, mesmerizing language and page-turning suspense, *Circe* is a triumph of storytelling." *BookBub* -

"Madeline Miller shifts the portrayal of Circe from the seductive, turning-men-into-pigs sorceress from Homer's *Odyssey* by humanizing her into an empathetic, warm, multi-faceted goddess." *Vox Magazine* -

"This beautifully written and absorbing tale of gods and mortals will delight Miller's many fans and have them reaching for Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*." *Library Journal* -

"Miller follows her impressive debut (*The Song of Achilles*) with a spirited novel about Circe's evolution from insignificant nymph to formidable witch best known for turning Odysseus's sailors into swine.... Weaving together Homer's tale with other sources, Miller crafts a classic story of female empowerment. She paints an uncompromising portrait of a superheroine who learns to wield divine power while coming to understand what it means to be mortal." *Publisher's Weekly* -

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